

Message Text

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PAGE 01 IAEA V 10387 230902Z
ACTION PER-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 W
----- 103576 /12-C

R 230606Z DEC 76
FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8483
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS VIENNA 10387

MONTREAL FOR ICAO, NAIROBI FOR UNEP, PARIS FOR UNESCO,
ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNIDO, APER, AFSP, IAEA
SUBJECT: TOUR OF DUTY IN IO POSTS

REF: (A) GENEVA 9838, (B) STATE 297609

1. THIS IS A JOINT IAEA/UNIDO MISSION CABLE.

2. IN GENERAL WE WOULD ASSOCIATE OURSELVES WITH VIEW
EXPRESSED IN REF A REGARDING TOD IN IO POSTS. EXPERIENCE
HERE SUPPORTS THE PROPOSITION THAT THE "OLD HANDS" IN
PERMANENT MISSIONS WITH EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND INSIGHTS
GAINED FROM EXTENDED DIRECT INVOLVEMENT WITH THE INTER-
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION TEND TO STAND OUT AS THE MORE
EFFECTIVE SPOKESMEN AND LEADERS IN LOCAL GROUPS AND AS
THE "PROS" IN THE DEBATES AND NEGOTIATIONS OF GOVERNING
BODIES. SUCH EXPERTISE AND INSIGHTS ARE ALSO GREAT
ASSETS IN DEALING EFFECTIVELY WITH THE SECRETARIAT AND
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PAGE 02 IAEA V 10387 230902Z

FERRETING OUT INFORMATION CONCERNING MATTERS OF
INTEREST TO US.

3. ALTHOUGH REF B WAS SPECIFICALLY CONCERNED WITH
TOD'S OF A NUMBER OF MIDDLE-LEVEL OFFICERS,
POLICY CITED THEREIN APPARENTLY EMBRACES ALL LEVELS AND

ASSIGNMENTS TO IO OVERSEAS POSTS OF FSO'S AND FSR'S
SUBJECT TO WORLD-WIDE POSTING. WE FEEL TPBT UNQUALIFIED
APPLICATION OF THREE-YEAR MAXIMUM TO ALL IO POSTS
WOULD LEAVE TOO SHORT A PERIOD TO DEVELOP EFFECTIVE
AND CONFIDENT PERFORMANCE BY OFFICERS IN KEY MISSION
POSITIONS. ABILITY QUICKLY TO RECALL AND UTILIZE
EITHER PROCEDURAL OR SUBSTANTIVE PRECEDENTS IN
THE ORGANIZATION IS FREQUENTLY ESSENTIAL IF FAST-
MOVING DEVELOPMENTS AND MANEUVERS IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL
MEETINGS ARE TO BE SATISFACTORILY DEALT WITH FROM OUR
POINT OF VIEW. EXPERIENCE IN THE UNIDO MISSION HAS BEEN
THAT A MISSION OFFICER MUST HAVE SERVED THROUGH TWO
SESSIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES
(NORMALLY SPREAD OVER ONE YEAR) BEFORE ACQUIRING A
KNOWLEDGE OF PROCEDURES AND BACKGROUND OF
SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS SUFFICIENT TO ENABLE HIM TO DEAL
WITH SUCH MATTERS ON HIS OWN. IN THE CASE OF THE
MISSION TO IAEA, THE ANNUAL IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE
OCCURS IN SEPTEMBER, WITH RESULT THAT NOMINAL
THREE-YEAR TERM WOULD LIKELY PERMIT INFORMED PARTICIPA-
TION IN ONLY TWO CONFERENCES.

4. THUS, WHILE A THREE-YEAR TOD MAY FIT VARIOUS IO
POSTS WE FEEL THAT TOURS OF UP TO FIVE YEARS SHOULD BE
ENTERTAINED, PARTICULARLY IN SENIOR ASSIGNMENTS WHERE
POLICY DIRECTION AND EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP IN THE
LOCAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION COMMUNITY IS IMPORTANT. STONE

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